

27B
8/19/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Hayakawa, et al.
Application No. : 09/374,344
Title : Method of Photocatalytically Rendering a
Surface of a Substrate Superhydrophilic, a
Substrate with a Superhydrophilic
Photocatalytic Surface, and a Method of
Making Thereof
Filing Date : August 13, 1999
Examiner : M. Padgett
Art Unit : 1762
Last Office Action : January 30, 2003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE

The Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of January 30, 2003, the applicants have filed a request for continuing examination. The applicants request reconsideration in view of the following preliminary amendment and supplemental response.

I. AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel claim 308.

312 (previously amended). A method for maintaining a surface of a composite in a clean state when subjected to ~~deposits and contaminants~~ dirt in air and environmental precipitation, comprising:

providing a composite with a surface, said composite comprising a substrate and a photocatalytic surface layer, said photocatalytic surface layer comprising a photocatalyst;